

Letters to the Editor

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Speak out against Bhutto assassination

The assassination of Benazir Bhutto is one of the latest in the series of shameful acts perpetrated by some misguided Muslims in the name of Islam. Islam does not condone acts of violence under any circumstances. Even in war, the Prophet Mohammed would command his soldiers not to trample crops, cut down trees, or kill women, children, or old people. This has been one of the important guiding principles of warfare for Muslims at all times.

As a Muslim, I denounce this dastardly act, and am saddened that Ms. Bhutto's assassination was not deemed worth mentioning recently during the Friday sermon at the Saad mosque - not even a passing remark was made by the imam. Why don't the folks who run our mosques openly denounce such violent acts when they are committed, not weeks or months later or never? We feign grief when people insult our beloved Prophet or a toy bear is named Mohammed but feel nothing when dastardly acts are committed by Muslims against Muslims.

Fewer than 1 percent of Muslims pay any attention to Osama bin Laden. Unfortunately, 99 percent don't speak out, either at home or in the mosques, when such incidents occur. How are our young to know that what they see or hear from the "caveman" is wrong and does not conform to a single verse in the Qur'an? As parents, we need to teach our children what Islam truly means and what the teachings of the Qur'an and our Prophet are.

Did my fellow Muslims at the Saad mosque not feel the pain in the killing of Ms. Bhutto - a mother, a wife and, above all, a woman? When are we going to see all Muslims stand as one body against such atrocities and say, vociferously, enough is enough?

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